

## EXPERIMENT: TRASHING THE WATERWAYS 1

This experiment can be used to support learning for Activity Cards STORMWATER, RUN OFF, NUTRIENTS, and LAND USE.

### PURPOSE

To show the effect of pollutants carried by stormwater into a waterway.

### EQUIPMENT:

- Small aquarium or glass container
- Water
- Pollutants, including paper, grass, fruit skins, left over milk or fruit juice, chip packets, paint

### PROCEDURE

Fill a small aquarium or glass container half full of fresh water and place it somewhere in the school playground

Over a period of 10 days gradually add pollutants found around the school (see suggested list above)

### RESULTS

Observe the changes over the 10 days.

### CONCLUSIONS

Discuss:

- What changes have you noticed taking place?
- What do you think caused these changes?
- Have you ever seen any rubbish in a lake, river, creek or any other waterway?
- What differences do the pollutants make to the freshness of the water?

### SOLVING THE CRIME

Are there any crime sites where pollutants could enter the waterway through stormwater?

Could any of the victims be harmed?